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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2010-56

Pendimethalin

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has registered a new end-use product Prowl H_2O Herbicide, containing technical grade pendimethalin, for use in Canada on apples, apricots, cherries, dry bulb onions, field corn, nectarines and peaches. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Prowl H_2O, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 29542.

The evaluation of this pendimethalin application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with its proposed uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registrations can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for pendimethalin is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs for pendimethalin in Canada in or on food are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Pendimethalin

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Pendimethalin	benzenamine, *N*-(1-ethylpropyl)-3,4-dimethyl-2,6-dinitro-, including the metabolite benzenemethanol, 4-[(1-ethylpropyl)amino]-2-methyl-3,5-dinitro-	0.1	Apples, apricots, dry bulb onions, field corn, nectarines, peaches, sweet cherries, tart cherries

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Applications/New/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2007-3344.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The proposed MRLs for pendimethalin in Canada are the same as corresponding tolerances established in the United States (tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide). Currently, Codex Alimentarius MRLs[2] have not been established for pendimethalin on any commodity. A listing of all established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for pendimethalin up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs for pendimethalin and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[2] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.